

there are many immigrant families that continue to live by and reinforce America's tradition of hard work.

These immigrant families day after day sacrifice to make ends meet. At a time of skyrocketing gas and food prices, we must recognize these sacrifices.

These are the same sacrifices made by many other families in America. History is full of examples of how immigrant groups unjustly were seen as popular targets. Why are we repeating these same cruel mistakes? What about love thy neighbor?

We cannot let anti-immigration rhetoric rule our actions. I urge my colleagues to join me in comprehensive immigration reform for the immigrant families who love America and continue to sacrifice.

IF THIS TRULY IS A FINANCIAL CRISIS, PRESIDENT BUSH NEEDS TO ADDRESS THE NATION

(Mr. YARMUTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, where is President Bush? Last Friday he held a short press conference demanding Congress pass a bailout plan that was still being written, otherwise the economic fallout would be dire.

But the President has not been heard from since. If this really is a catastrophic economic collapse, shouldn't the President address the American people and the Congress in a prime-time nationally televised speech?

The President needs to explain to the people exactly what is happening in the financial markets and how this plan will help turn things around. This is extremely complicated. With potentially a \$700 billion price tag, every American has a stake in what happens with this legislation.

If this truly is a crisis on Wall Street, President Bush needs to begin treating it that way. He can't sit on the sidelines any longer. If President Bush is serious about getting this legislation passed, he needs to sell this plan to the American people.

If the future of our Nation's economy is, indeed, at stake, President Bush needs to raise the stakes and explain his plan to the American people.

NO BLANK CHECK

(Ms. SHEA-PORTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SHEA-PORTER. Mr. Speaker, as Wall Street was struggling last week, the Bush administration reached out to Congress and asked for help. But over the weekend, the Treasury Department sent just a 3-page bill to Capitol Hill that was nothing more than a blank check for Secretary Paulson, \$700 billion that the Secretary could use at his discretion.

That is simply not acceptable. We are not going to hand over a \$700 billion

check so the administration can do what they wish.

Over the next couple of days, we will work in a bipartisan fashion to develop legislation that includes independent oversight so that we can see exactly what the Treasury Department is doing with this money. We also want to ensure that CEOs are not rewarded with golden parachutes for the mess that they created.

A blank check is not acceptable. Congress will work to protect the American taxpayer.

MCCAIN DEREGULATION AGENDA WOULD BE DISASTROUS FOR MIDDLE CLASS AMERICANS

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, the crisis on Wall Street is a direct result of the Bush administration's refusal to properly regulate the financial industry. Unfortunately, Senator MCCAIN is a strong supporter of deregulation.

In March, Senator MCCAIN said, "I am always for less regulation . . . I'd like to see a lot of the unnecessary government regulations eliminated." In May he told the Wall Street Journal, "You are interviewing the greatest free trader you will ever interview, and the greatest deregulator you will ever interview."

Senator MCCAIN even endorses extending the same kind of regulation that has created chaos in the financial industry to our health care system. In an opinion piece this month, the Senator writes, "Opening up the health insurance market to more vigorous nationwide competition, as we have done over the last decade in banking, would provide more choices of innovative products less burdened by the worst excesses of State-based regulation."

Mr. Speaker, our Nation can't afford another 4 years of Wall Street running amok. It's time for change, and that is not Senator MCCAIN.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on the additional motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record vote on the postponed question will be taken later.

DUNCAN HUNTER NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 3001) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2009 for military activities of the Department of De-

fense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The text of the Senate bill is as follows:

S. 3001

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009".

(b) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Representative Duncan Hunter was elected to serve northern and eastern San Diego in 1980 and served in the House of Representatives until the end of the 110th Congress in 2009, representing the people of California's 52d Congressional district.

(2) Previous to his service in Congress, Representative Hunter served in the Army's 173rd Airborne and 75th Ranger Regiment from 1969 to 1971.

(3) During the Vietnam conflict, Representative Hunter's distinguished service was recognized by the award of the Bronze Star and Air Medal, as well as the National Defense Service Medal and the Vietnam Service Medal.

(4) Representative Hunter served on the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives for 28 years, including service as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Military Research and Development from 2001 through 2002 and the Subcommittee on Military Procurement from 1995 through 2000, the Chairman of the full committee from 2003 through 2006, and the ranking member of the full committee from 2007 through 2008.

(5) Representative Hunter has persistently advocated for a more efficient military organization on behalf of the American people, to ensure maximum war-fighting capability and troop safety.

(6) Representative Hunter is known by his colleagues to put the security of the Nation above all else and to provide for the men and women in uniform who valiantly dedicate and sacrifice themselves for the protection of the Nation.

(7) Representative Hunter has demonstrated this devotion to the troops by working to authorize and ensure quick deployment of add-on vehicle armor and improvised explosive device jammers, which have been invaluable in protecting the troops from attack in Iraq.

(8) Representative Hunter worked to increase the size of the U.S. Armed Forces, which resulted in significant increases in the size of the Army and Marine Corps.

(9) Representative Hunter has been a leader in ensuring sufficient force structure and end-strength, including through the 2006 Committee Defense Review, to meet any challenges to the Nation. His efforts to increase the size of the Army and Marine Corps contributed to the enactment by the Congress and the subsequent implementation by the Administration of the larger forces.

(10) Representative Hunter is a leading advocate for securing America's borders.

(11) Representative Hunter led efforts to strengthen the United States Industrial Base by working to enact legislation that ensures that the national industrial base will be able to design and manufacture those products critical to America's national security.